

# Water Quality Trends in South Dade

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**South Dade Investigation Workshop**  
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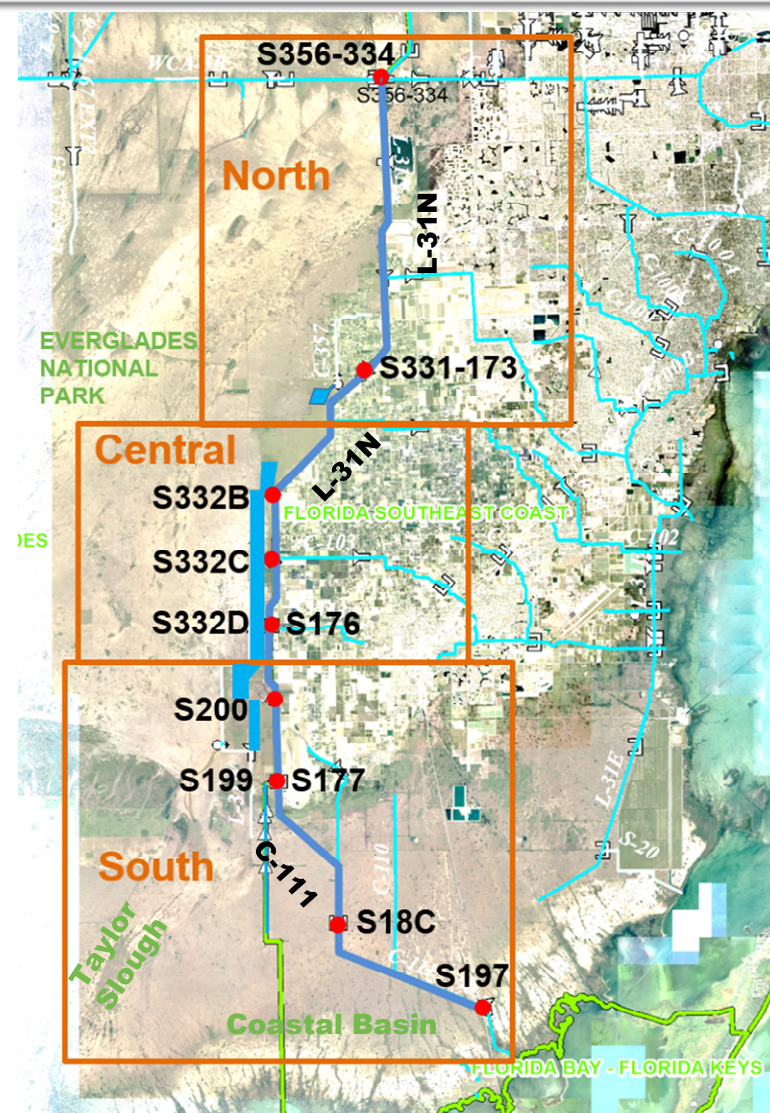
# Surface Water Quality Standards for the L-31N and C-111 Canal System

## Florida's surface water quality standards

- Published in Chapter [62-302](#) F.A.C. (based on federal Clean Water Act), and includes:
- Classification: Class III
  - L-31N and C-111 Canals; Everglades National Park
- Outstanding Florida Water Designation (OFW)
  - Everglades National Park
- Criteria (water quality of concern):
  - Total Phosphorus, Mercury and Pesticides

## Federal Settlement Agreement, Appendix A – Everglades National Park

- Discharge limit for Total Phosphorus





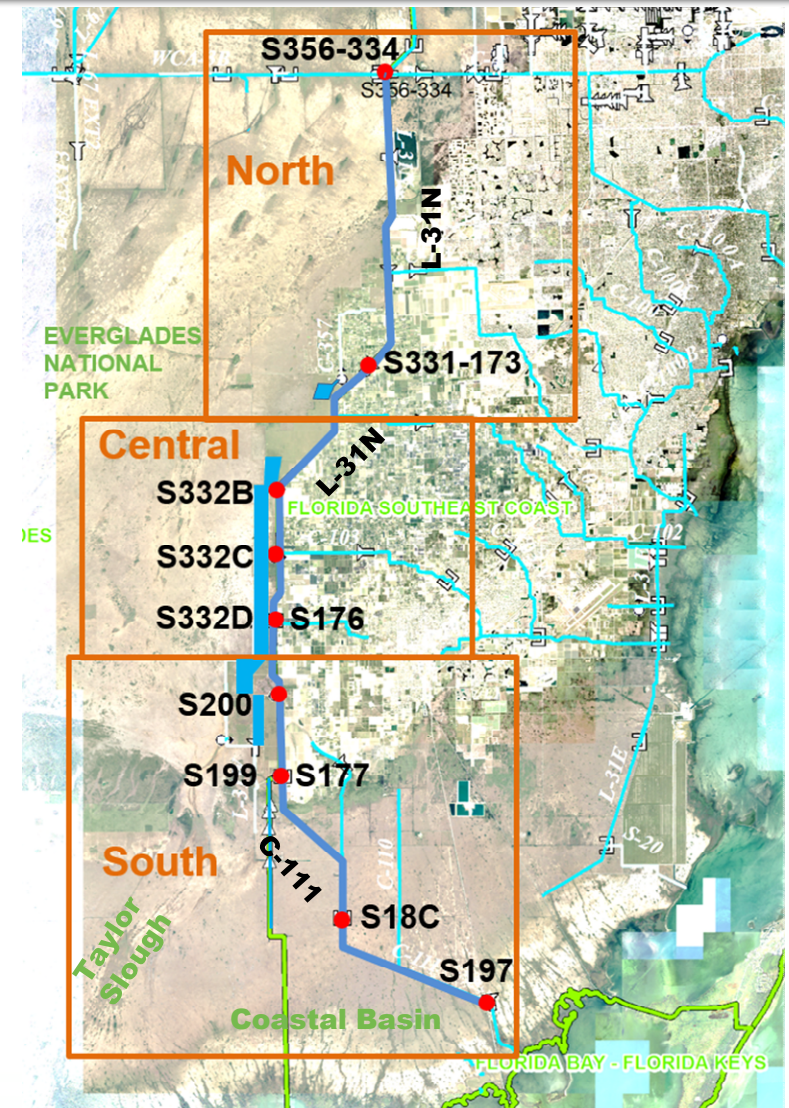
# Surface Water Quality Standards for the L-31N and C-111 Canal System

Projects with State Water Quality Standards incorporated as conditions and associated monitoring locations:

- Non-Everglades Construction Project / SFWMD
  - S334, S331-173, S332D, S176, S177, S18C, S197
- C-111 Spreader Canal, Phase I (Western) Project / SFWMD
  - S200, S199
- Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow (CSSS) Emergency Order (EO) for the C-111 / USACE
  - S331-173, S332B, S332C, S332D

Settlement Agreement monitoring locations:

- Appendix A (Taylor Slough/Coastal Basin) S332D, S18C



# Surface Water Quality Standards for the L-31N and C-111 Canal System

## Total Phosphorus (TP)

- Discharges into the EPA shall be deemed in compliance with state water quality standards upon a demonstration that:
  - Phosphorus levels in the discharges will be at or below the phosphorus criterion of 10 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$  or ppb); or
  - Discharges will not cause or contribute to exceedances of the phosphorus criterion in the receiving waters
- Discharges into Everglades National Park must not result in a violation of the concentration limits established for the Park in Appendix A of the Settlement Agreement
  - Taylor Slough / Coastal Basin limit is 11  $\mu\text{g/L}$  (ppb)

### STATUS

*Long-term trends of TP concentrations at **canal monitoring locations** range between*

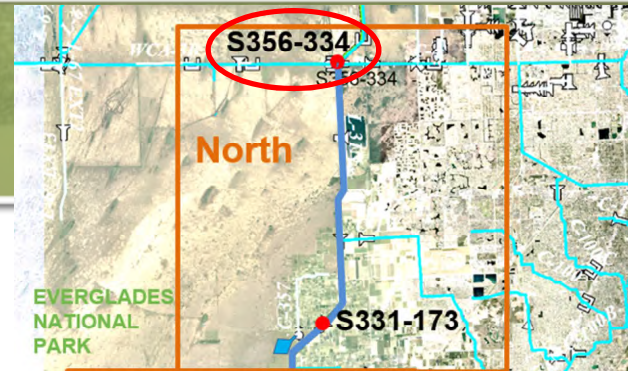
*4 – 10  $\mu\text{g/L}$  (ppb)*

*Long-term trends of TP in discharges to Taylor Slough / Coastal Basin ranges between*

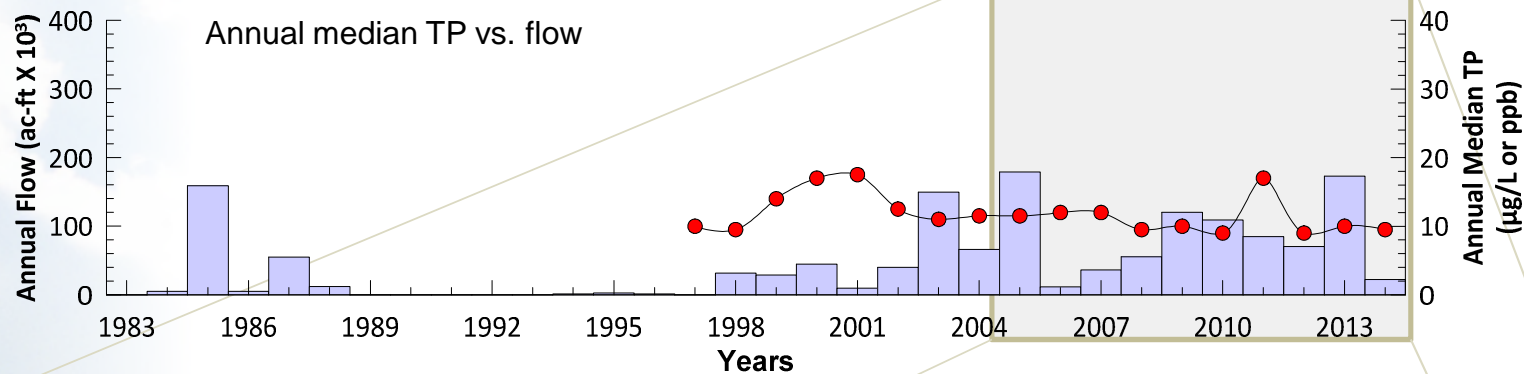
*5 – 6  $\mu\text{g/L}$  (ppb)*



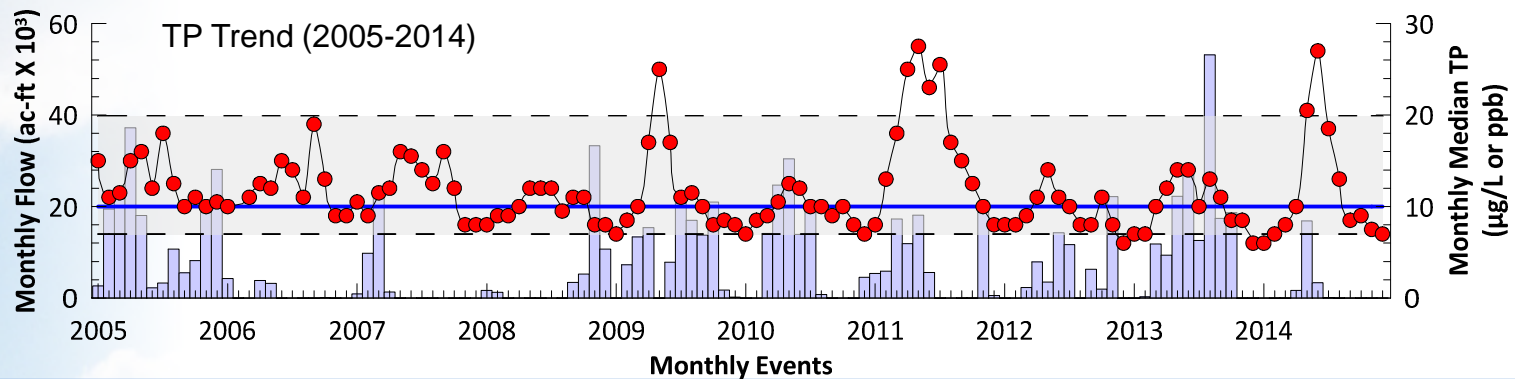
# Total Phosphorus Trends: S334



Annual median TP vs. flow



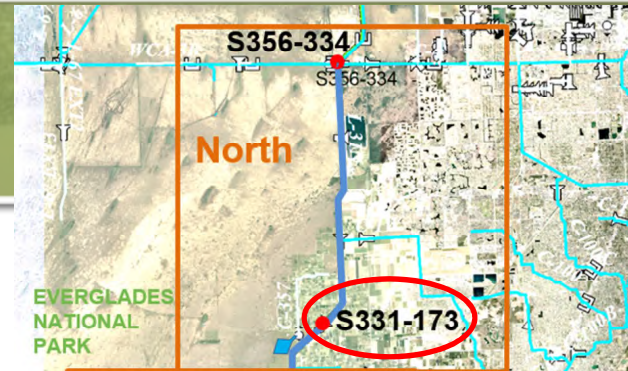
TP Trend (2005-2014)



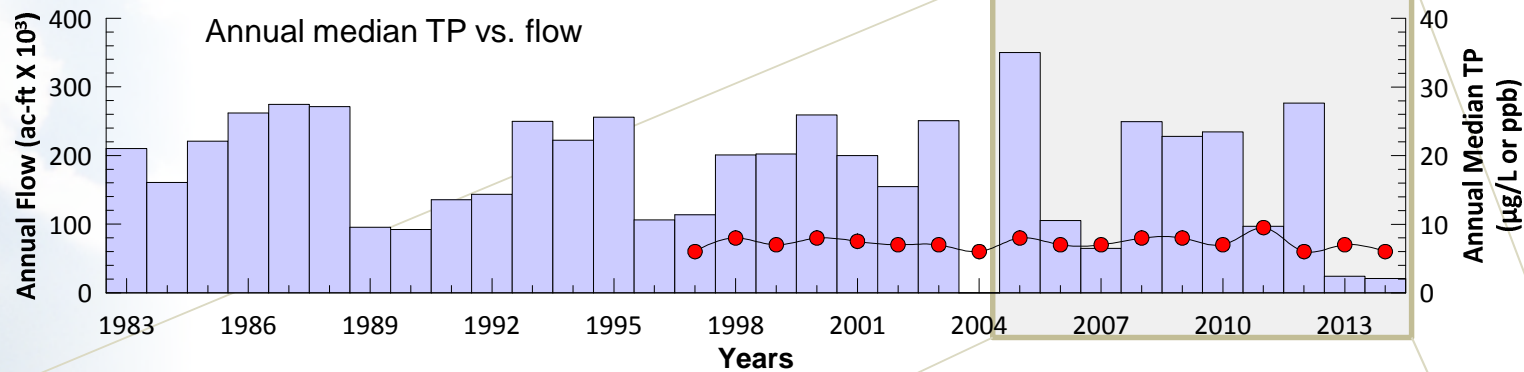
Flow Median TP Period Median (10 ppb) 10<sup>th</sup> (7 ppb) and 90<sup>th</sup> (20 ppb) Percentiles



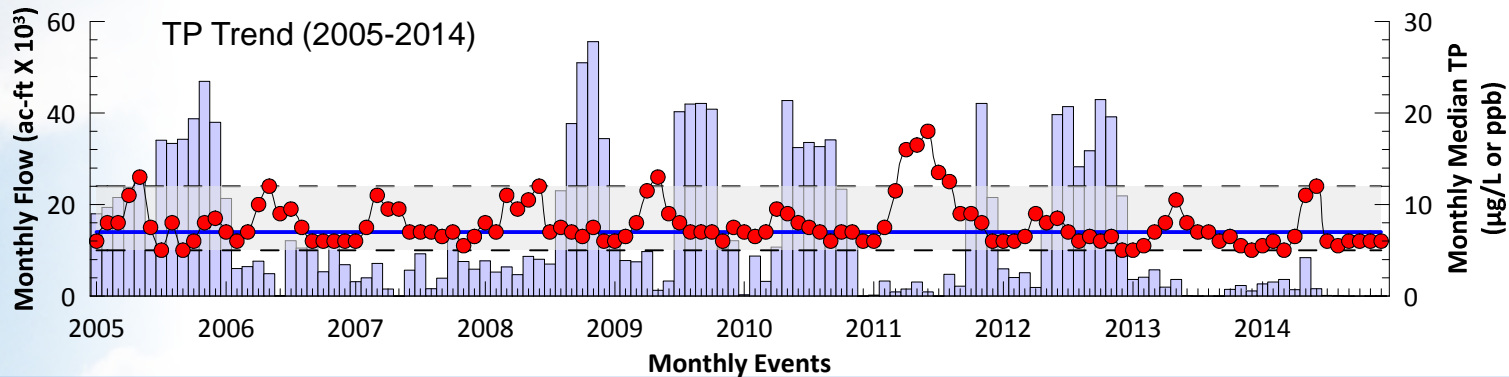
# Total Phosphorus Trends: S331-173



Annual median TP vs. flow



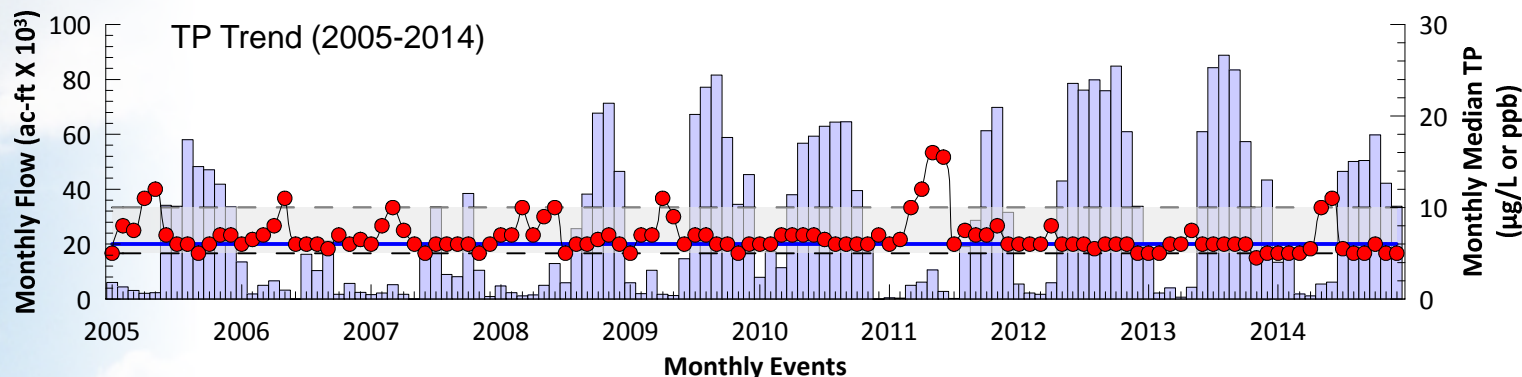
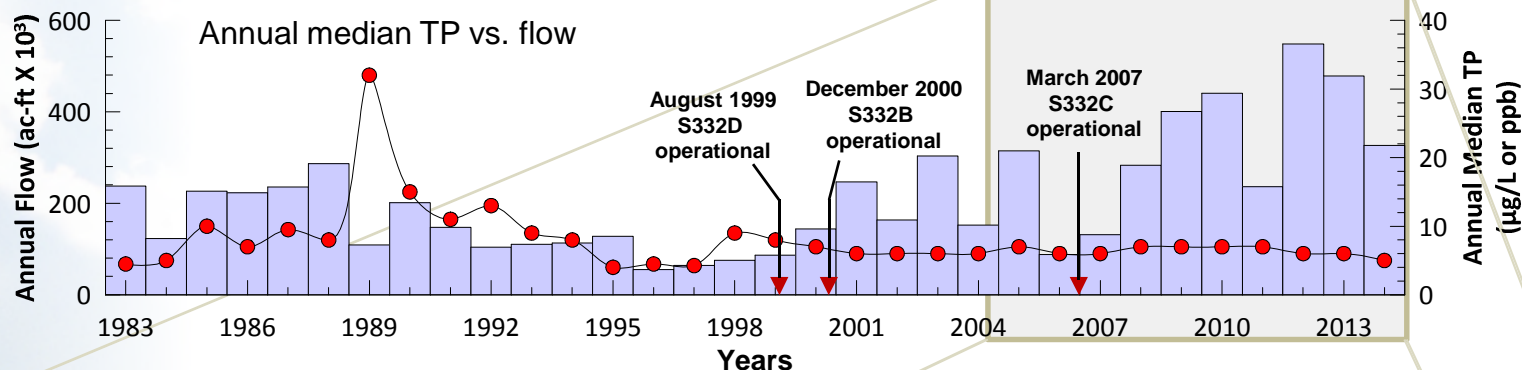
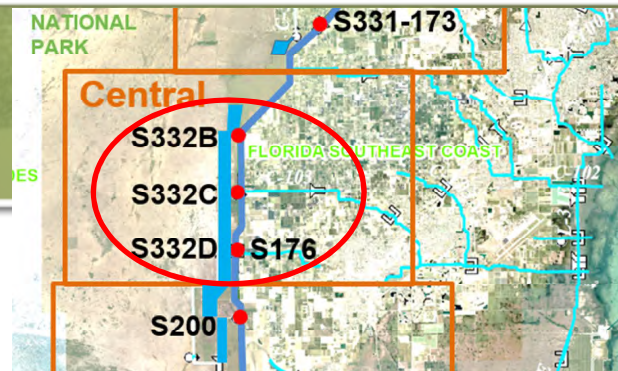
TP Trend (2005-2014)



Flow Median TP Period Median (7 ppb) — — — 10<sup>th</sup> (5 ppb) and 90<sup>th</sup> (12 ppb) Percentiles



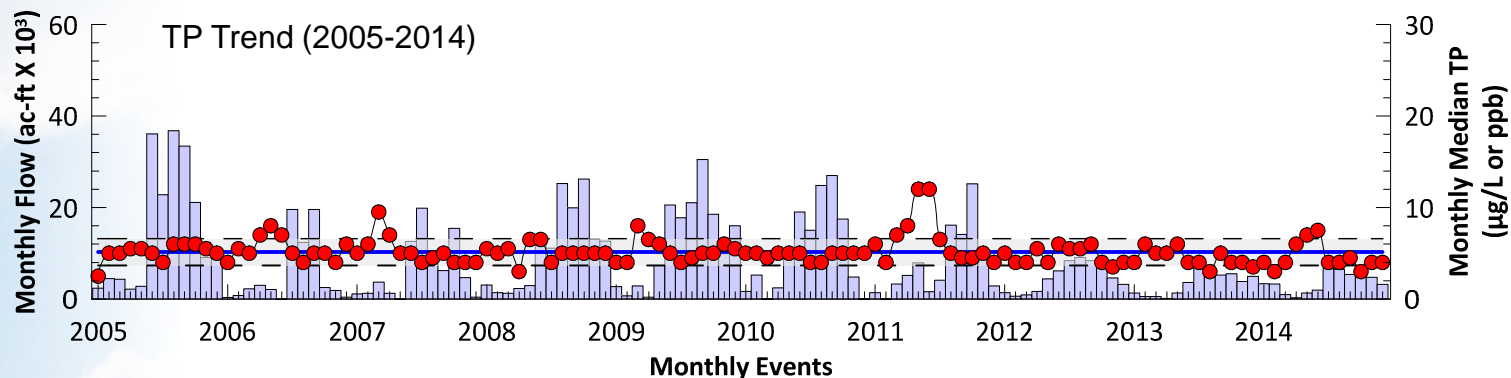
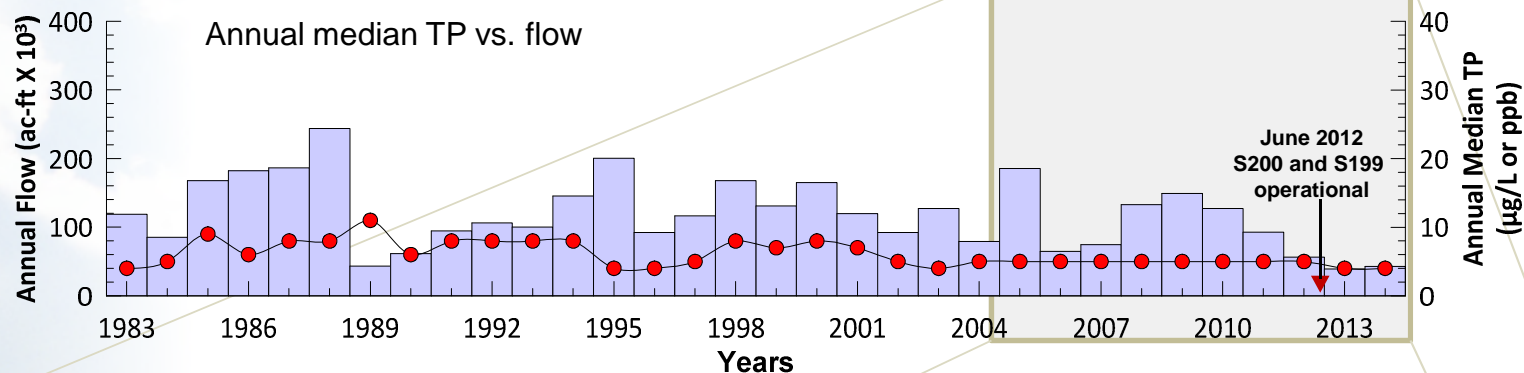
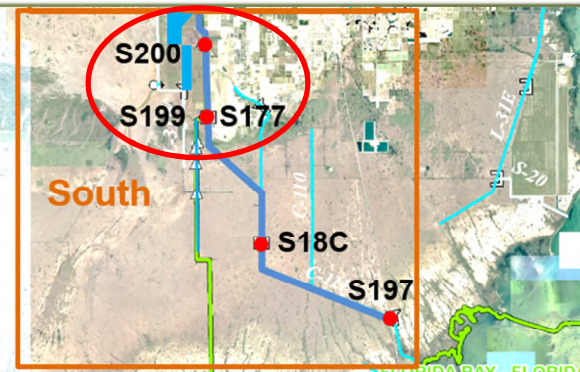
# Total Phosphorus Trends: Central - S332B/C/D, S176



Flow Median TP Period Median (6 ppb) 10<sup>th</sup> (5 ppb) and 90<sup>th</sup> (10 ppb) Percentiles



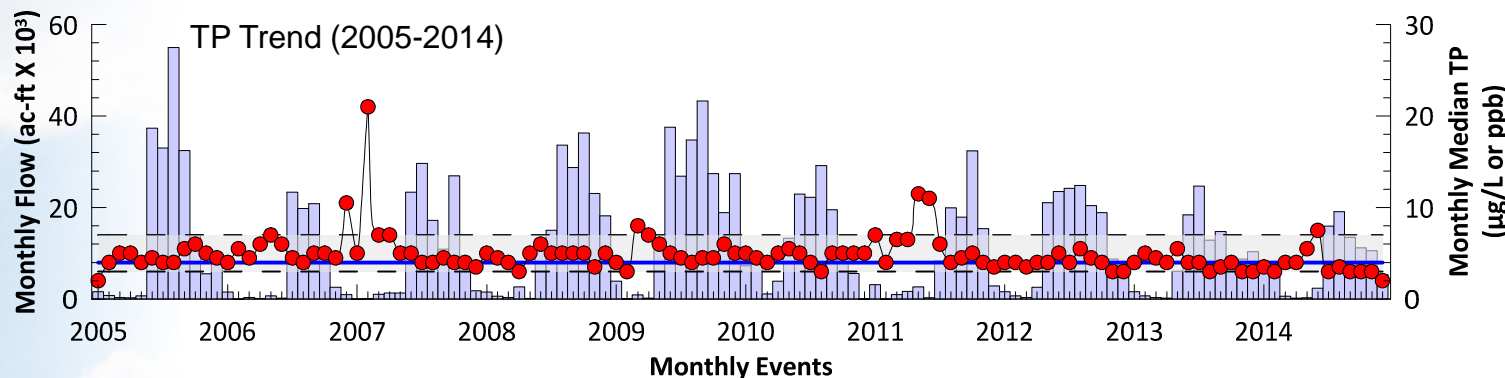
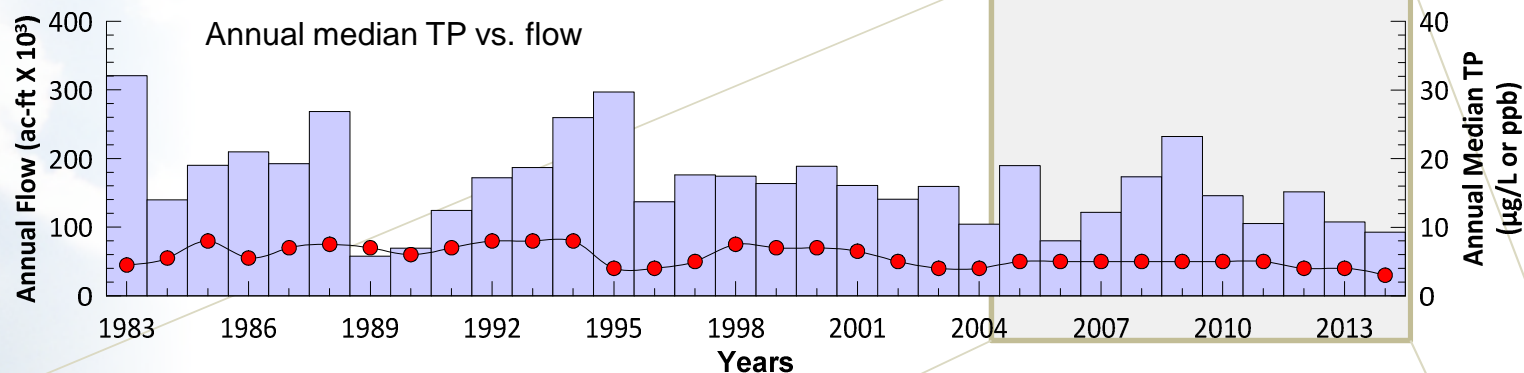
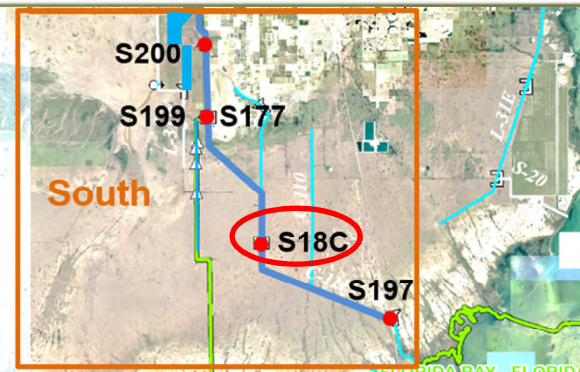
# Total Phosphorus Trends: S200, S199, S177



Flow Median TP Period Median (5 ppb) 10<sup>th</sup> (4 ppb) and 90<sup>th</sup> (8 ppb) Percentiles

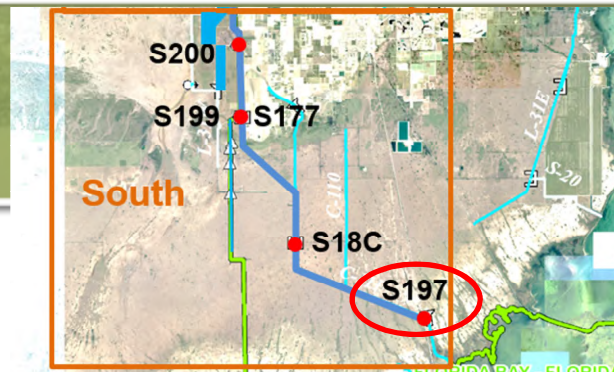


# Total Phosphorus Trends: S18C

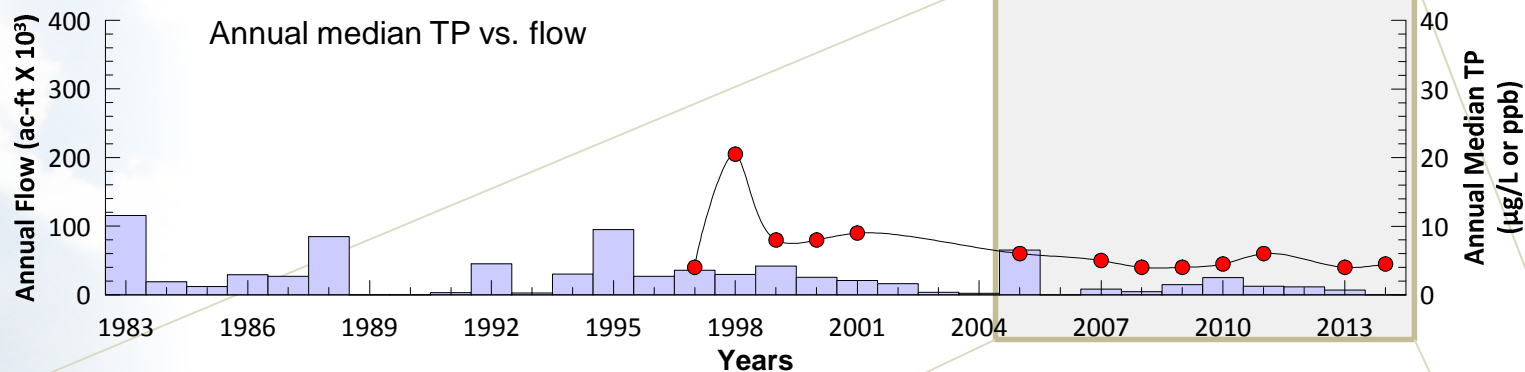


Flow Median TP Period Median (4 ppb) — — 10<sup>th</sup> (3 ppb) and 90<sup>th</sup> (7 ppb) Percentiles

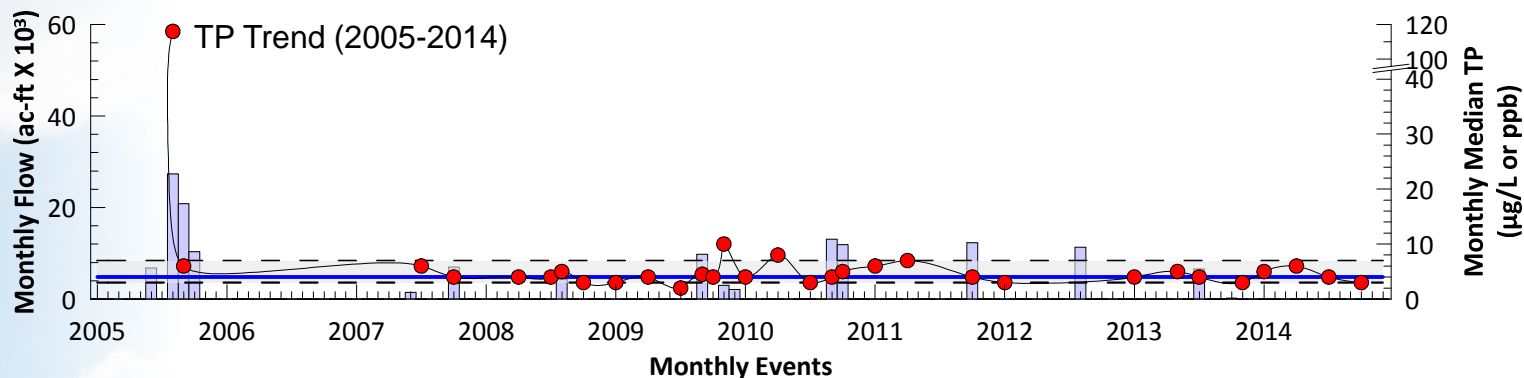
# Total Phosphorus Trends: S197



Annual median TP vs. flow



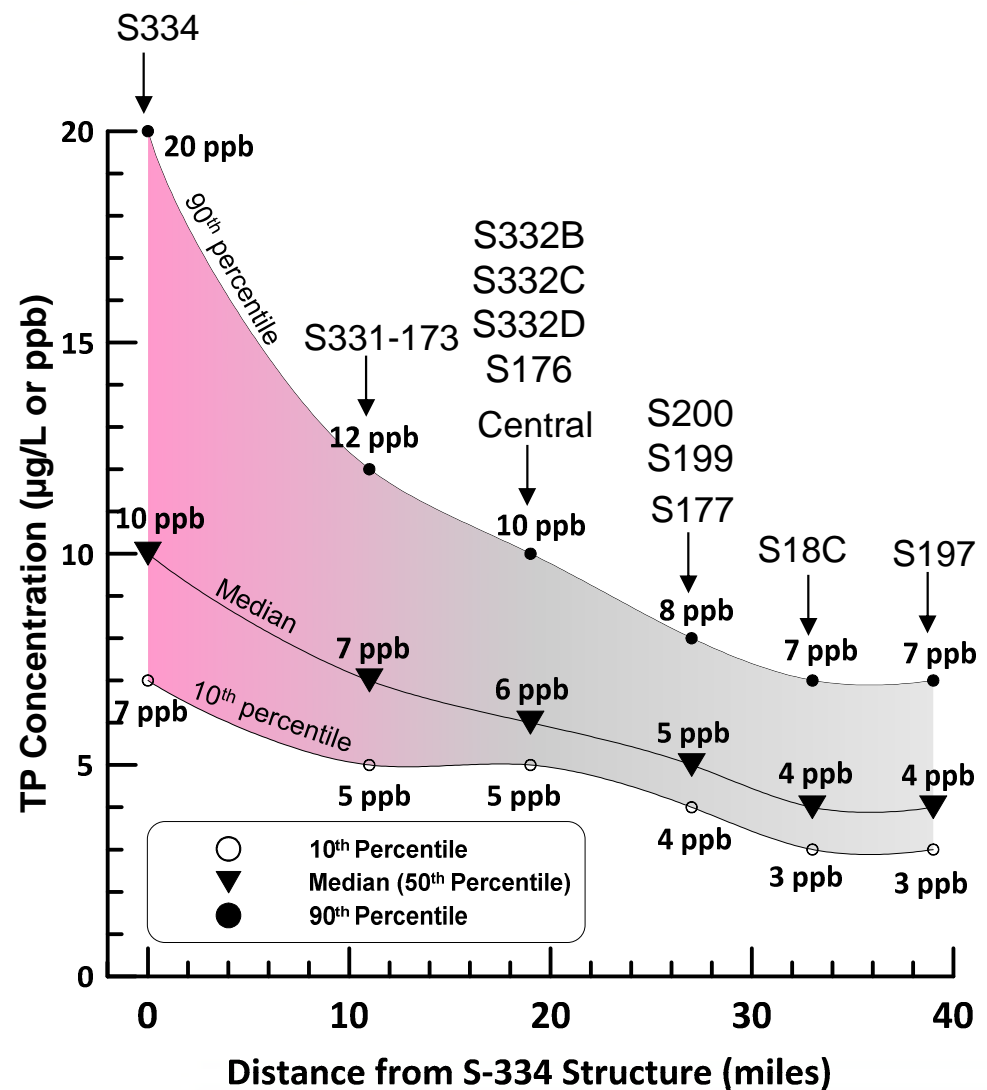
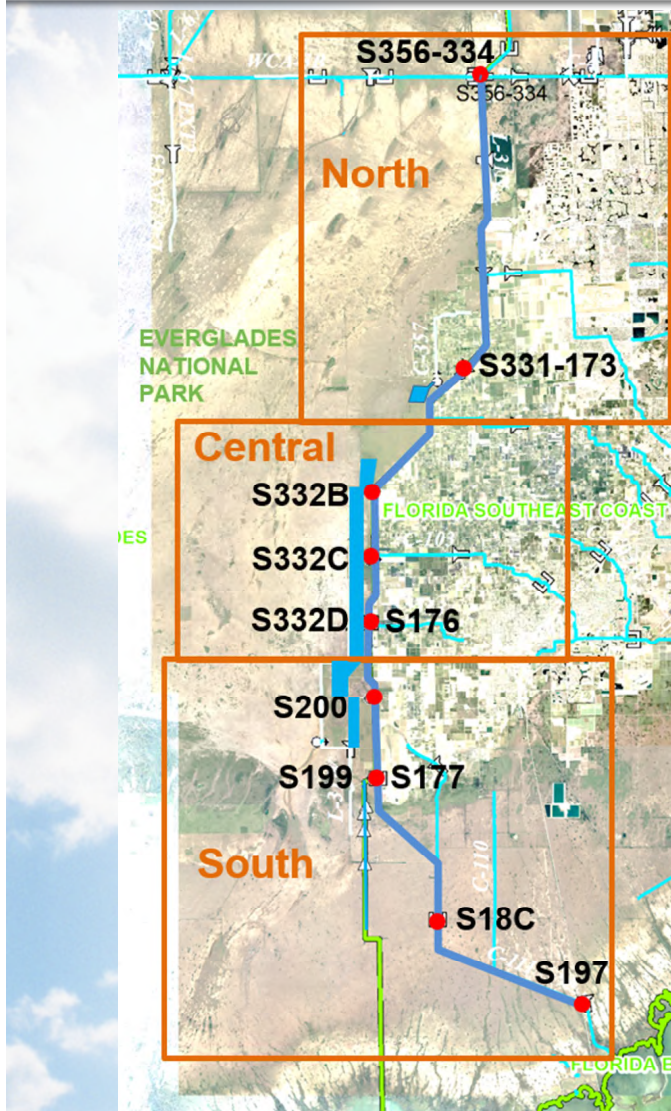
TP Trend (2005-2014)



Flow Median TP Period Median (4 ppb) 10<sup>th</sup> (3 ppb) and 90<sup>th</sup> (7 ppb) Percentiles



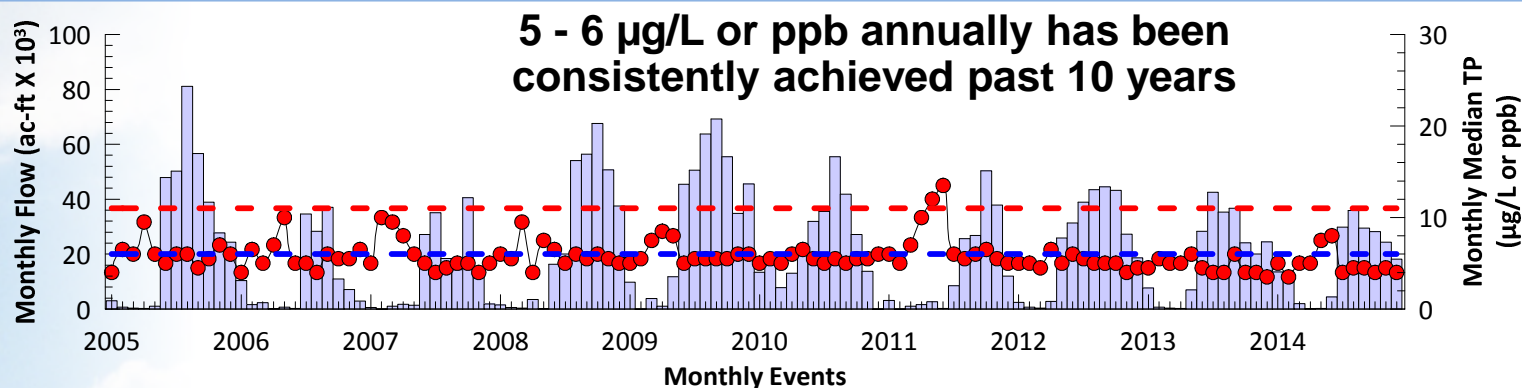
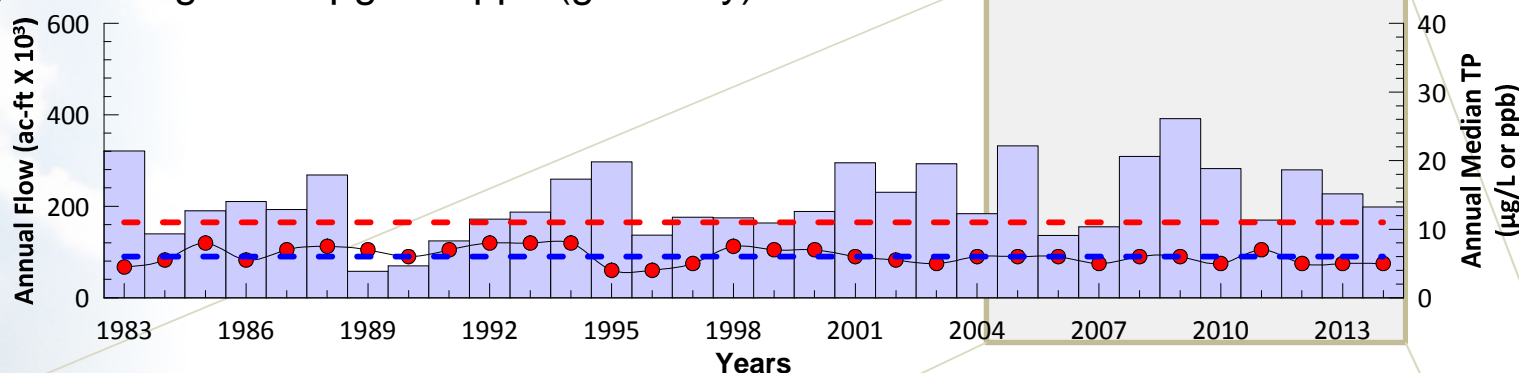
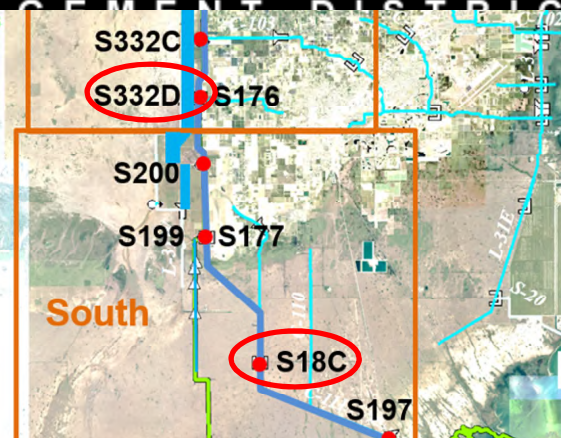
# Total Phosphorus Spatial Trend (2005-2014)



# Total Phosphorus Trends: S332D, S18C

## Settlement Agreement, Appendix A – Taylor Slough/Coastal Basins

- Long-term Limit of 11  $\mu\text{g/L}$  or ppb (annually required)
- Long-term Target of 6  $\mu\text{g/L}$  or ppb (goal only)



Flow
  Median TP
  Taylor Slough Target (6 ppb)
  Taylor Slough Limit (11 ppb)



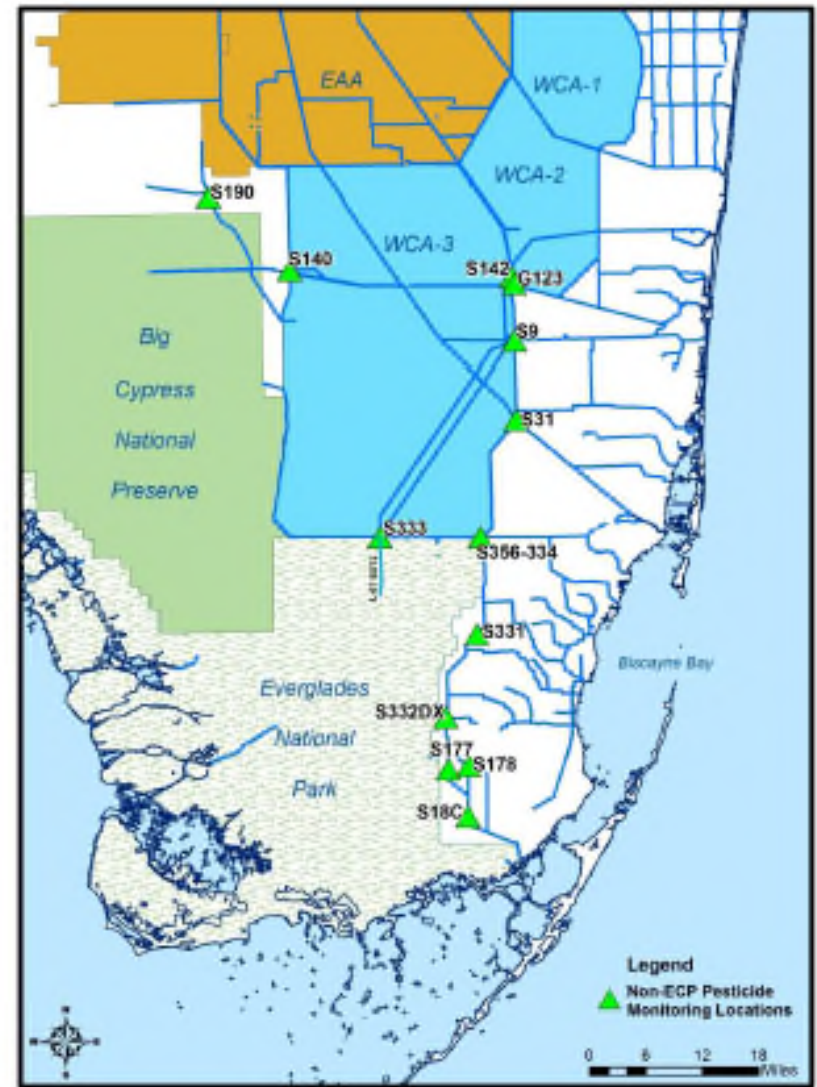
# Surface Water Quality Standards for the L-31N and C-111 Canal System

## Pesticides

- Evaluate potential impacts on aquatic life resulting from intermittent pesticide exposure (acute/chronic)
- Maximum observed concentration is compared to the criterion published under Section 304 (a) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), and Florida Class III numerical water quality standard

### STATUS

*Pesticides are occasionally detected, but not at concentrations greater than their respective Class III criteria or toxicity limits*



# Surface Water Quality Standards for the L-31N and C-111 Canal System

## Total Mercury (THg)

- Evaluate impacts to piscivorous avian and mammalian wildlife
- Surface Water
  - THg criteria is 12 nanograms per liter (ng/L) Florida Class III numerical water quality standard
- Fish
  - Evaluate concentrations against the Southern Everglades 75<sup>th</sup> percentile concentration in milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) for the period of record; and
  - USEPA Trophic Level III Fish protection criteria of 0.077 mg/kg

## STATUS

***Total mercury in surface water has been well below the 12 ng/L criterion at canal monitoring sites***

***Total mercury levels in fish measured from monitoring sites have been well below the:***

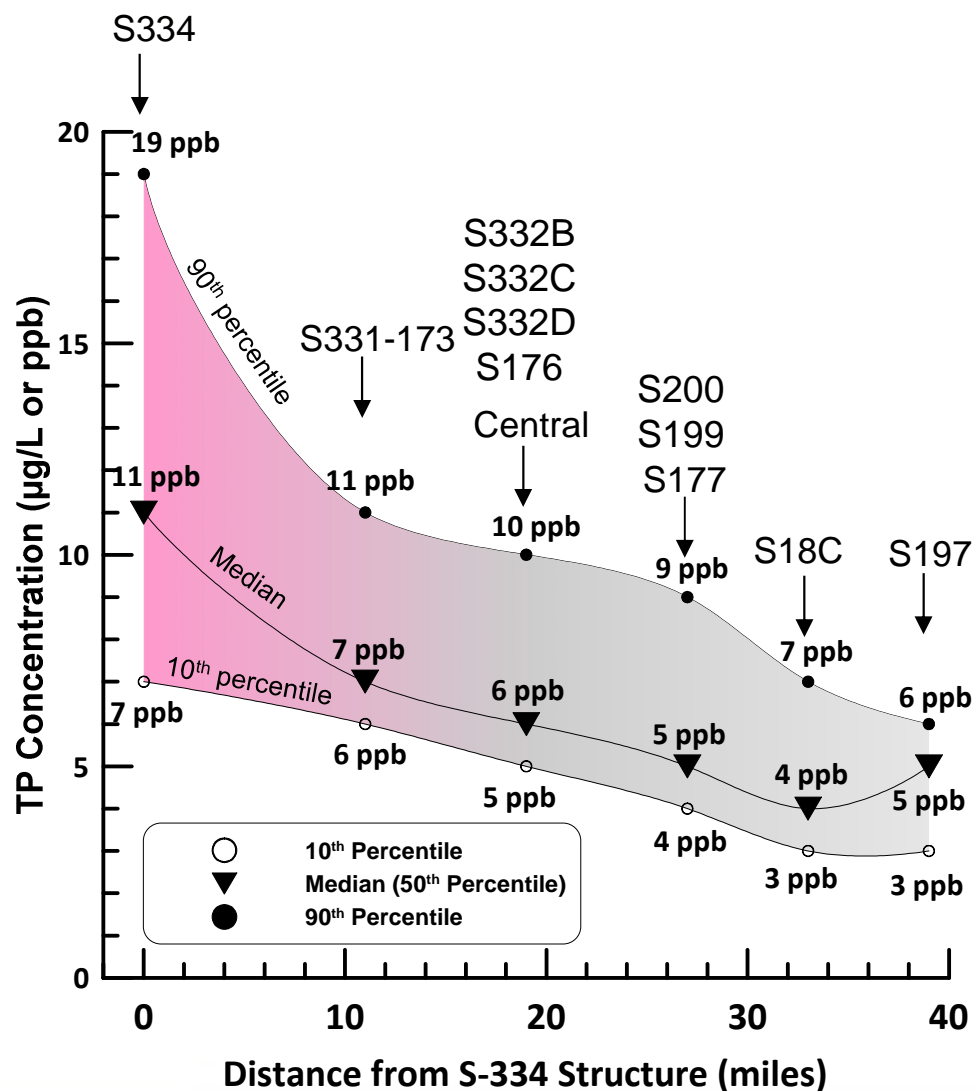
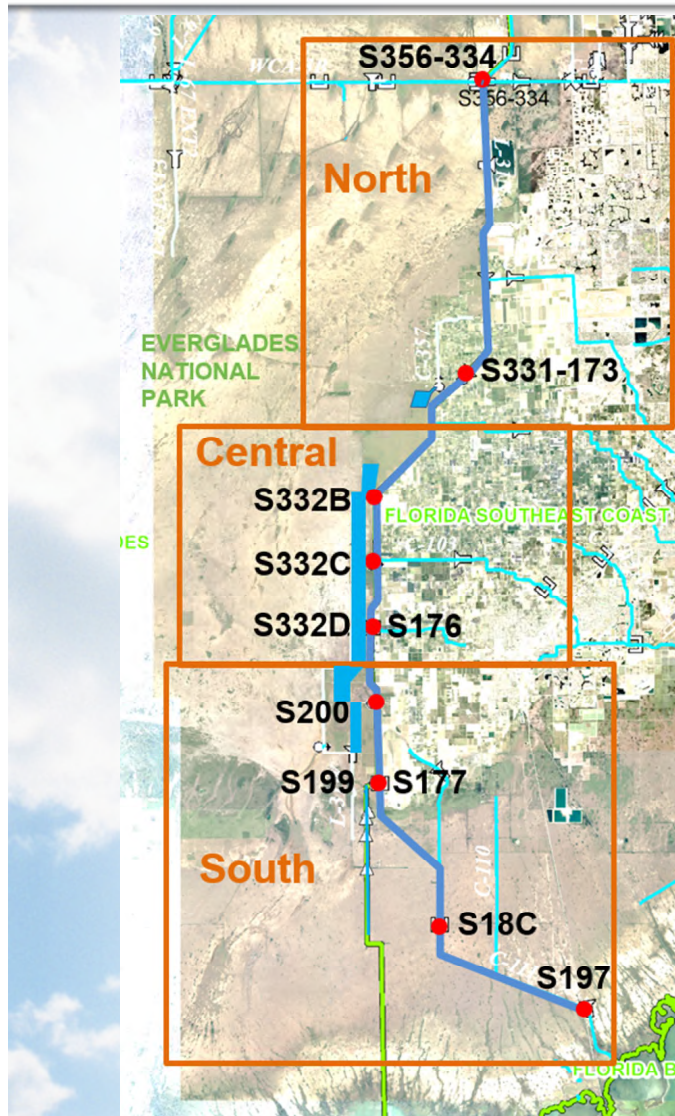
***Southern Everglades 75th percentile concentration of 0.08 mg/kg (for the period of record up to 2012), and***

***USEPA trophic level III fish protection criteria***



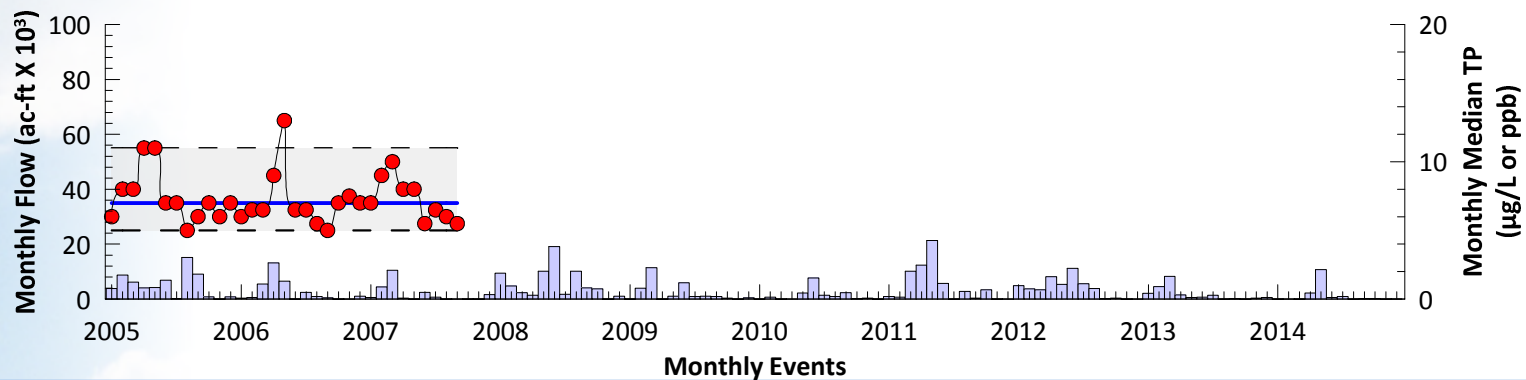
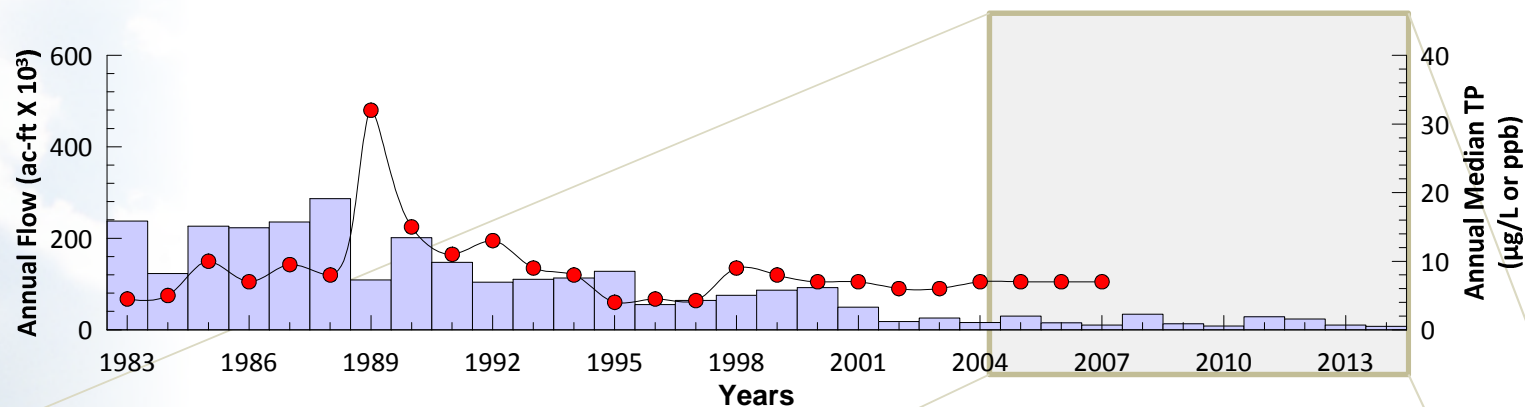
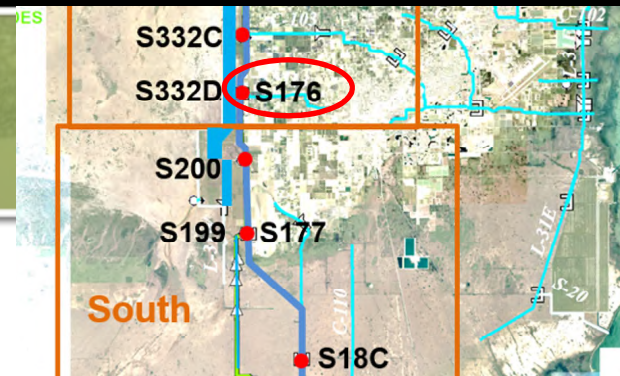
**Questions?**

# Total Phosphorus Spatial Trend (2010-2014)



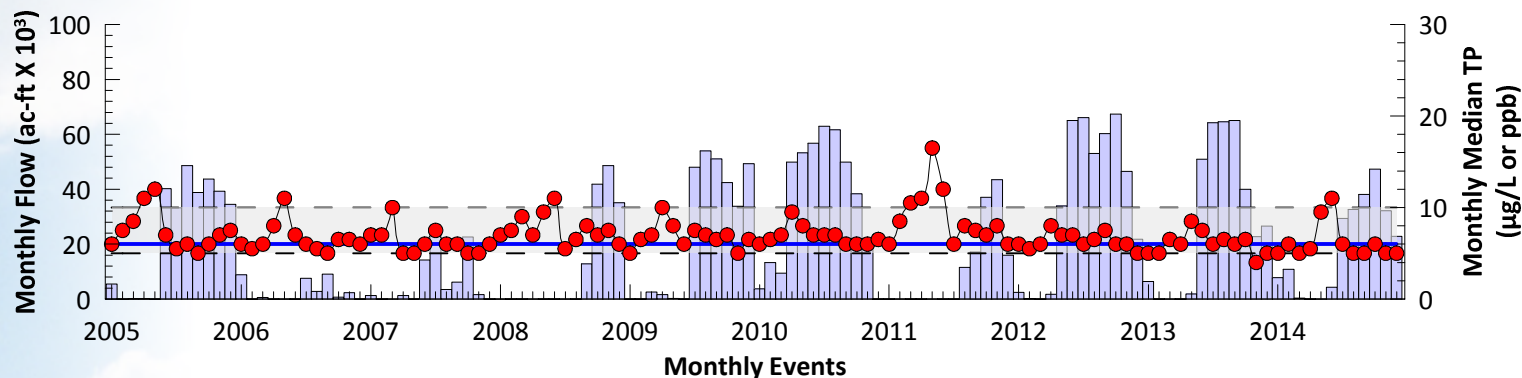
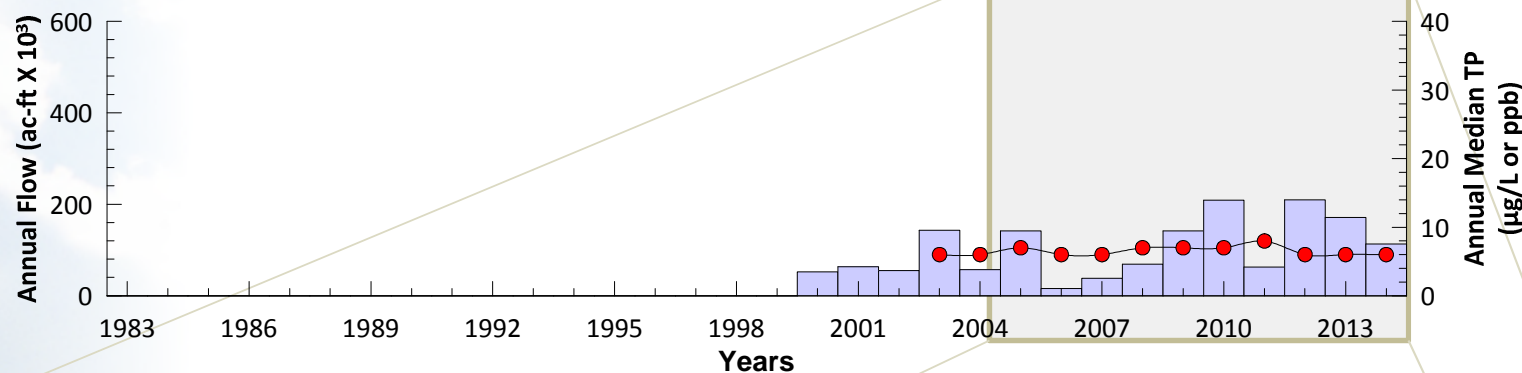
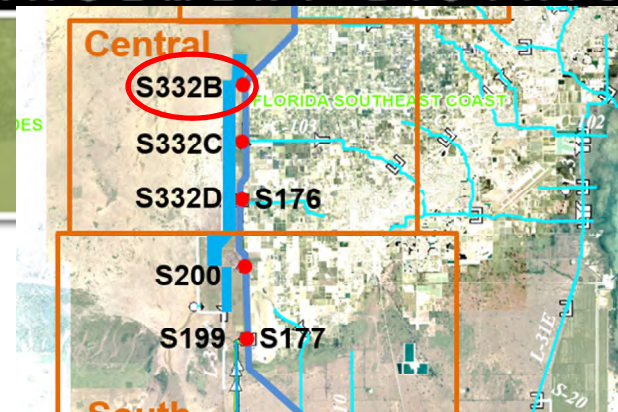


# Total Phosphorus Trends: S176



Flow Median TP Period Median (7 ppb) 10<sup>th</sup> (5 ppb) and 90<sup>th</sup> (11 ppb) Percentiles

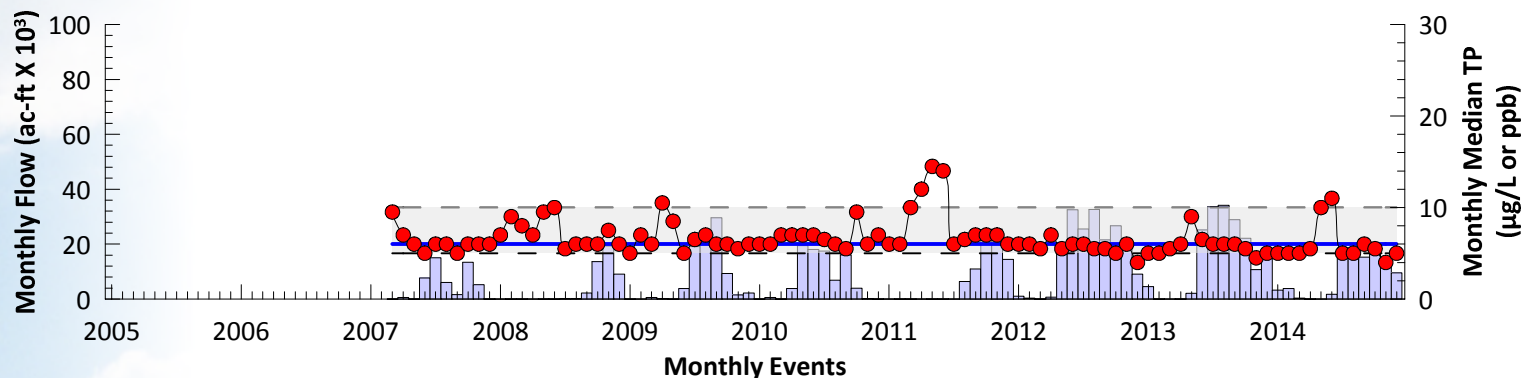
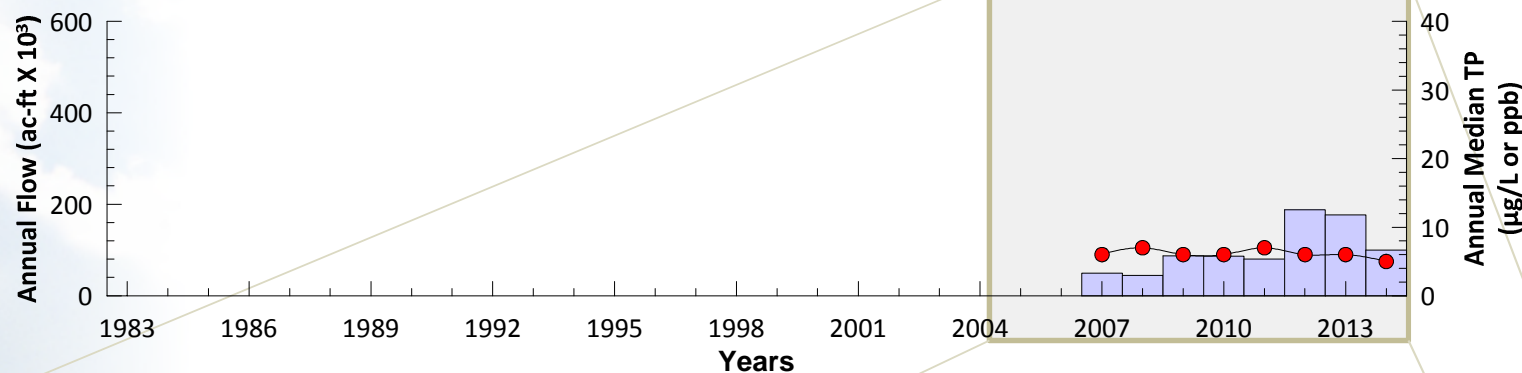
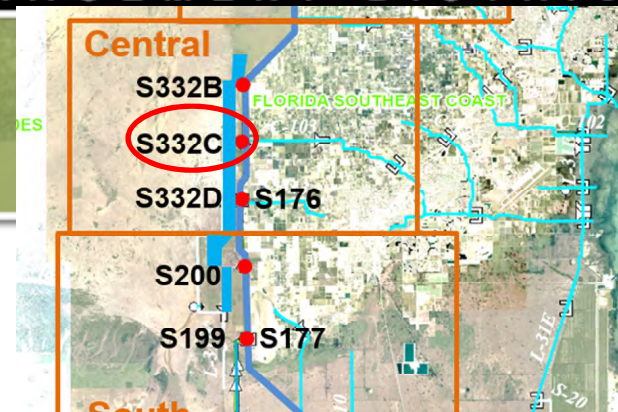
# Total Phosphorus Trends: S332B



Flow Median TP Period Median (6 ppb) 10<sup>th</sup> (5 ppb) and 90<sup>th</sup> (10 ppb) Percentiles

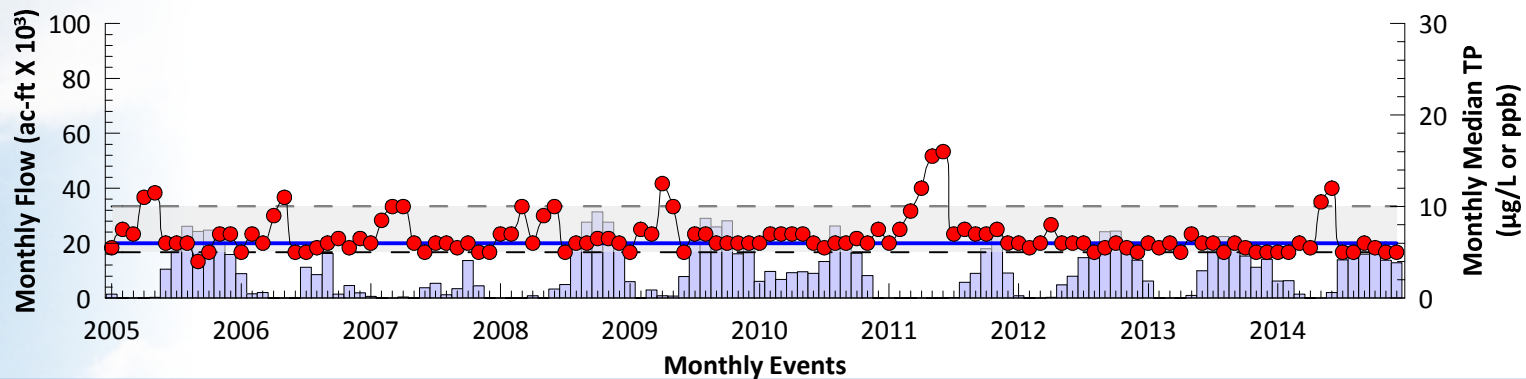
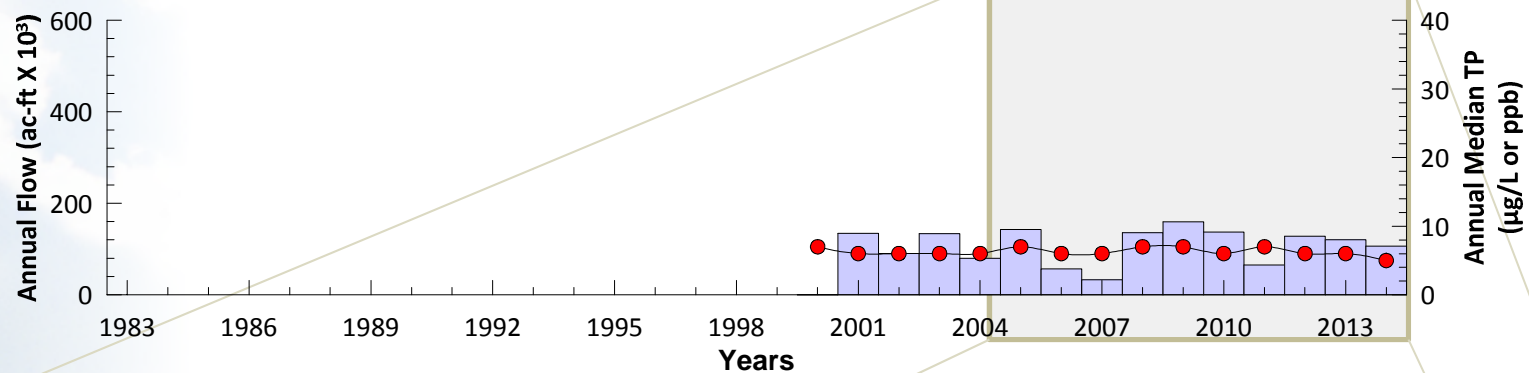


# Total Phosphorus Trends: S332C



Flow Median TP Period Median (6 ppb) 10<sup>th</sup> (5 ppb) and 90<sup>th</sup> (10 ppb) Percentiles

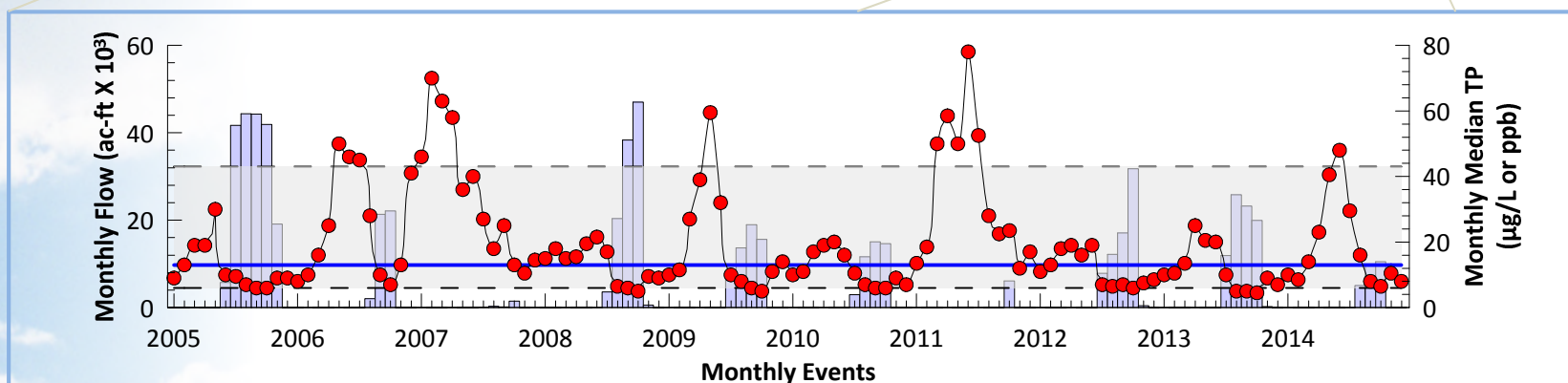
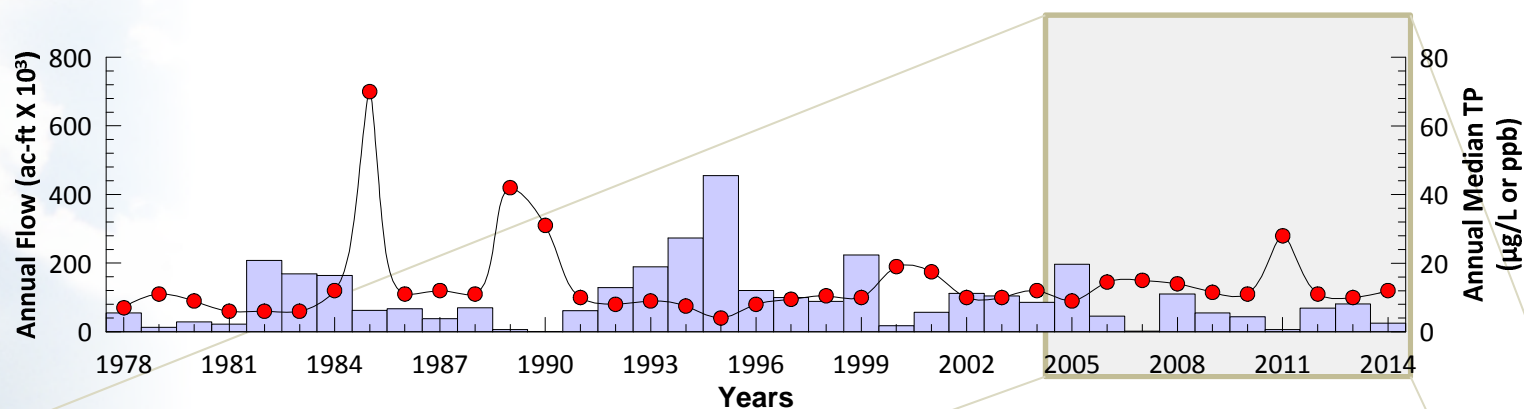
# Total Phosphorus Trends: S332D



Flow Median TP Period Median (6 ppb) 10<sup>th</sup> (5 ppb) and 90<sup>th</sup> (10 ppb) Percentiles

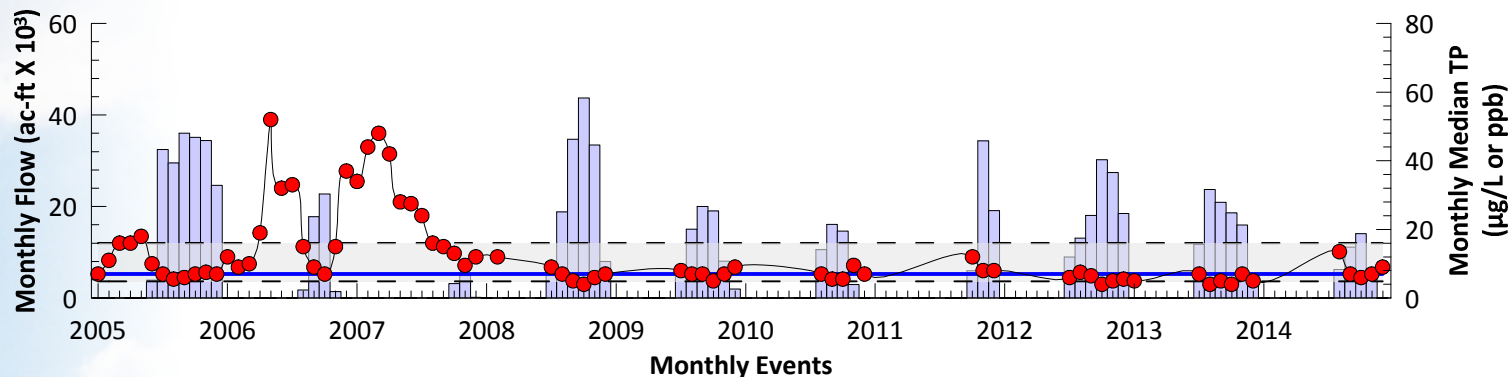
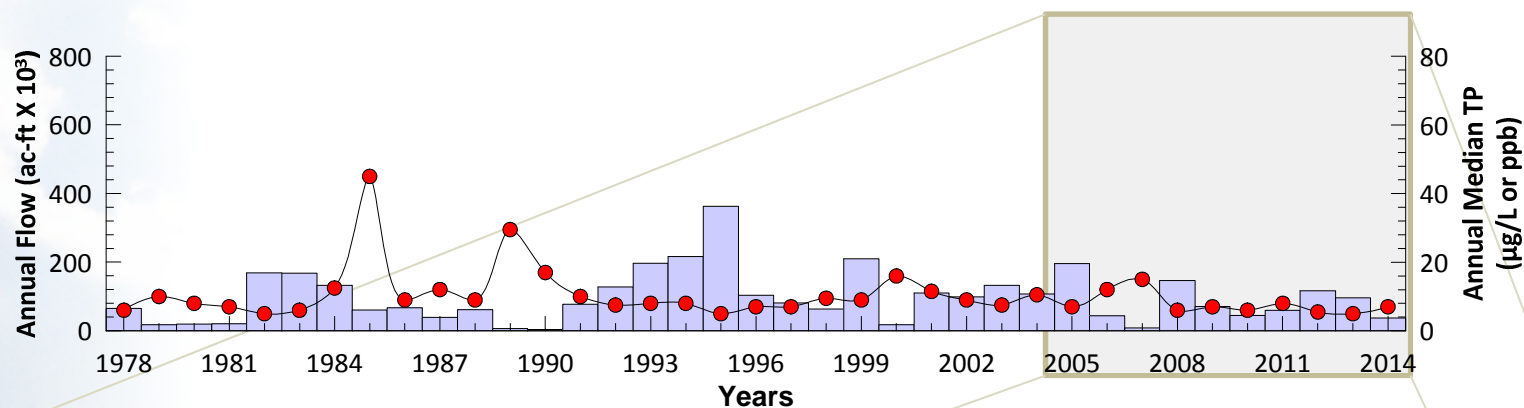


# Total Phosphorus Trends: S12A



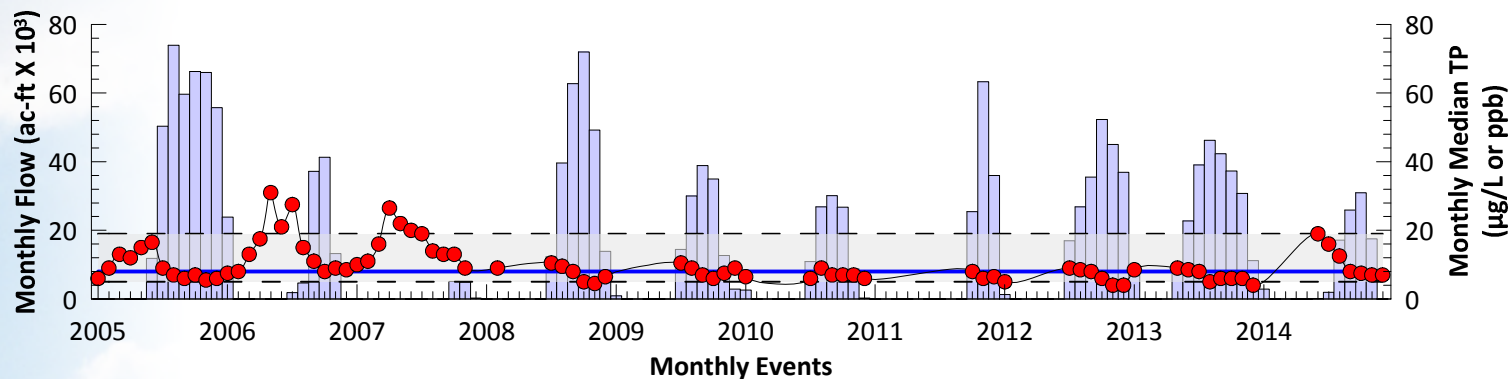
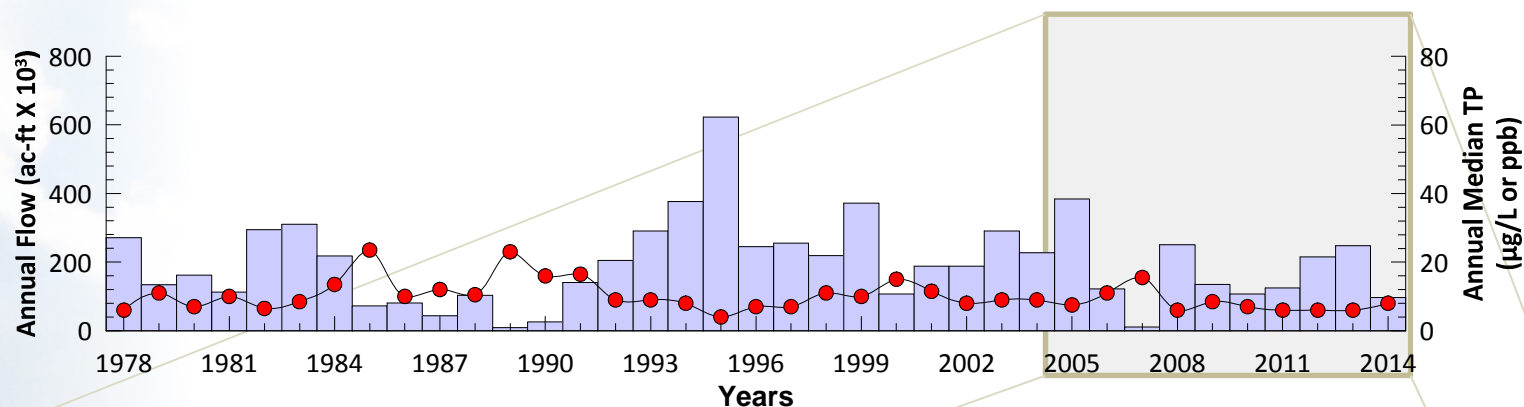
Flow Median TP Period Median (13 ppb) — — — 10<sup>th</sup> (6 ppb) and 90<sup>th</sup> (43 ppb) Percentiles

# Total Phosphorus Trends: S12B



Flow    Median TP    Period Median (7 ppb)    10<sup>th</sup> (5 ppb) and 90<sup>th</sup> (16 ppb) Percentiles

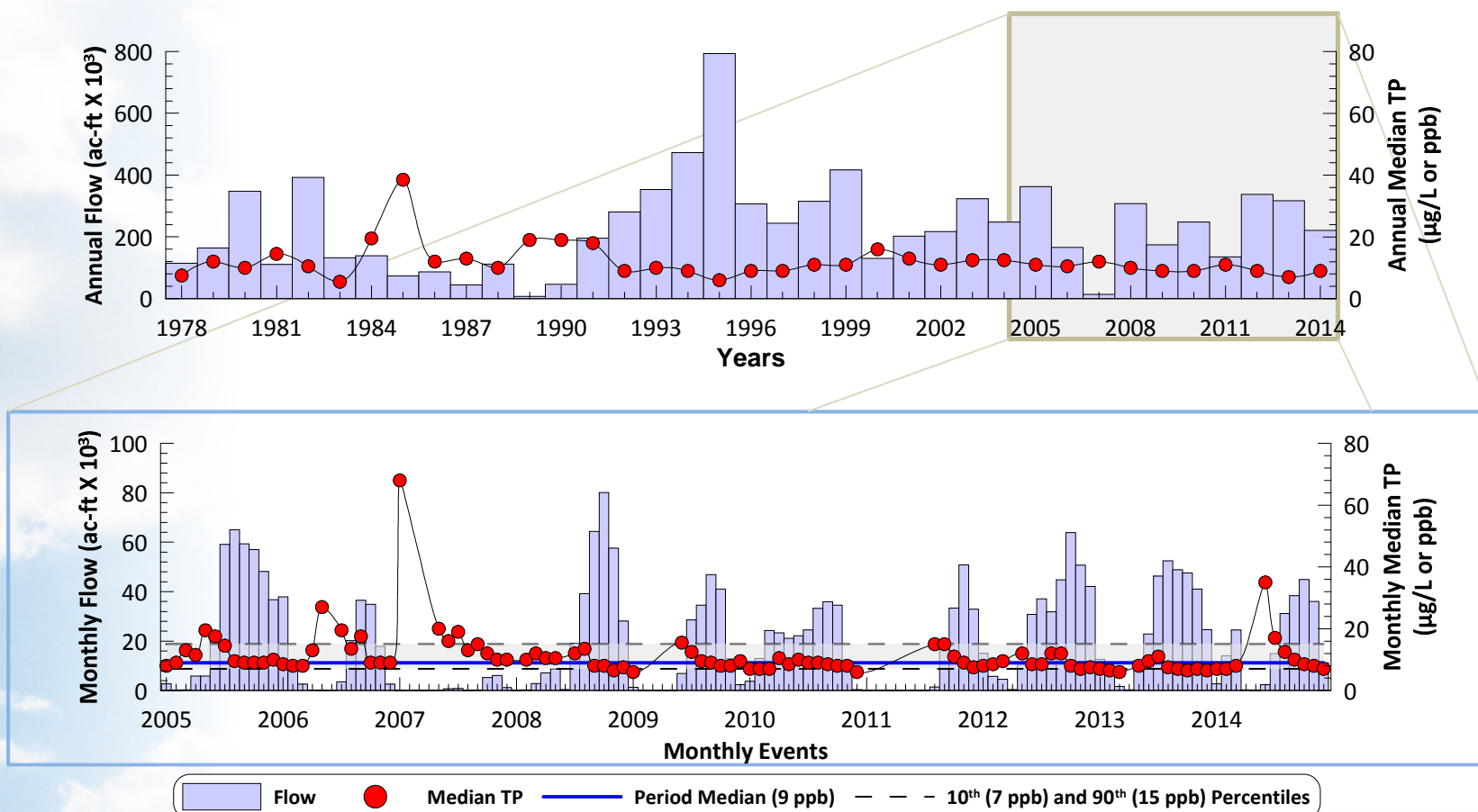
# Total Phosphorus Trends: S12C



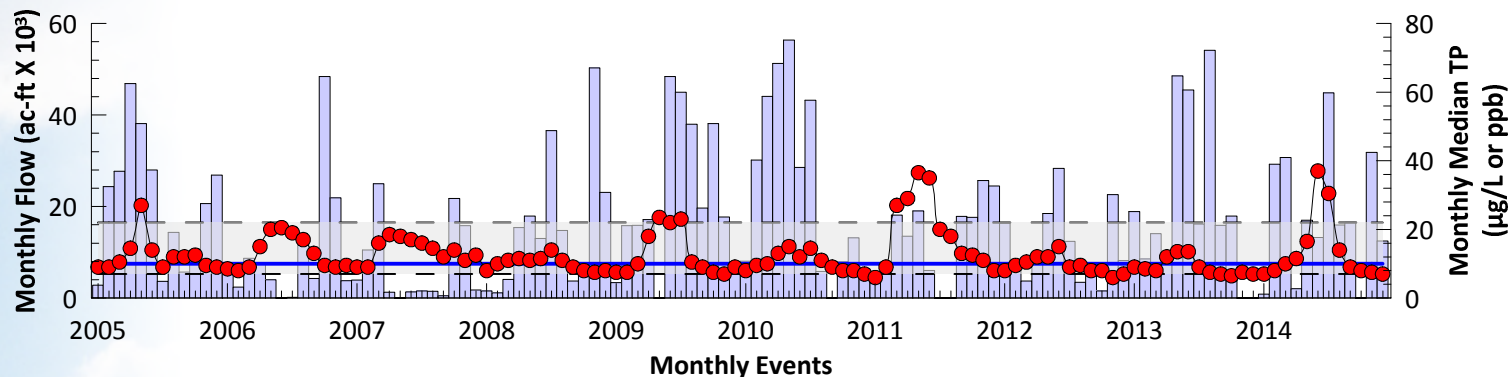
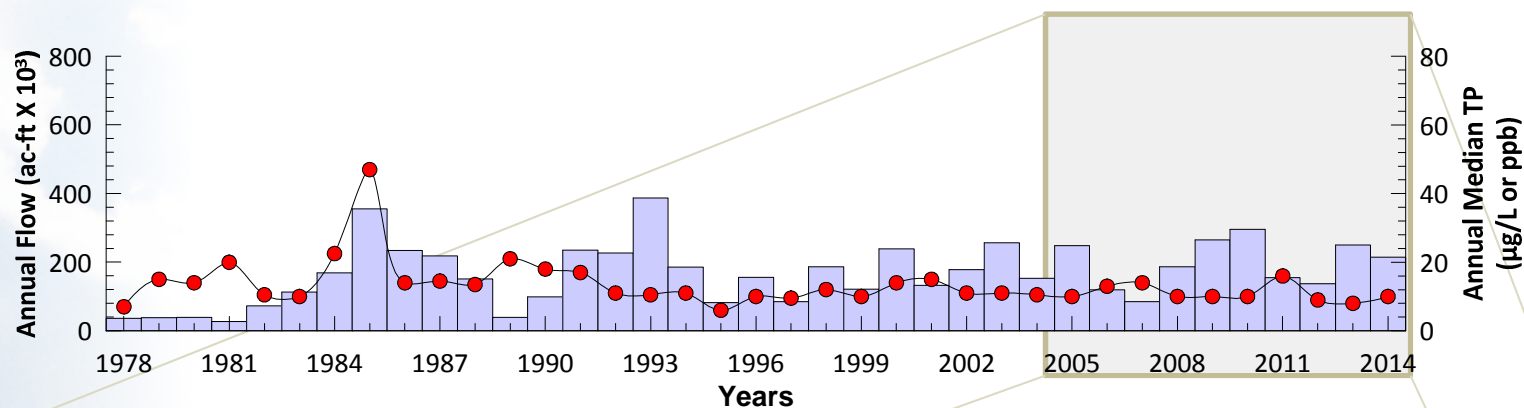
Flow    Median TP    Period Median (8 ppb)    10<sup>th</sup> (5 ppb) and 90<sup>th</sup> (19 ppb) Percentiles



# Total Phosphorus Trends: S12D



# Total Phosphorus Trends: S333



Flow Median TP Period Median (10 ppb) — — — 10<sup>th</sup> (7 ppb) and 90<sup>th</sup> (22 ppb) Percentiles

## C-111 Detention Areas: S-332B, S-332C, S-332D

